



SUNDAY

DECEMBER 30, 2018

DIVINE LITURGY

YOUTH PROGRAM

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HAPPY
SAINTS FEAST DAY
(NAME DAY)
CELEBRATING THIS
WEEK!



Jesus Christ, our Lord & Savior was born 2018 years ago

TODAY on the Sunday before Nativity we **commemorate** (that's a fancy word for honor): Anysia the Virgin-martyr of Thessaloniki; Gideon the New Martyr of Mount Athos; Holy Martyr Philetaerus; Righteous Father Leondus the Archimandrite; Afterfeast of the Nativity.

On Monday, December 31: Apodosis of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; Melania the Younger, Nun of Rome.

On Tuesday, January 1: Circumcision of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia; Peter the New Martyr of the Peloponnesos; Gregory, Bishop of Nanzianzos, Father of Gregory the Theologian; Theodotos the Martyr; Righteous Theodosios of Triglia; Telemachos the Martyr; Fulgentius, Bishop of Ruspe; Emmelia, Mother of Basil the Great, Gregory of Nyssa, Makrina, and Peter of Sebaste.

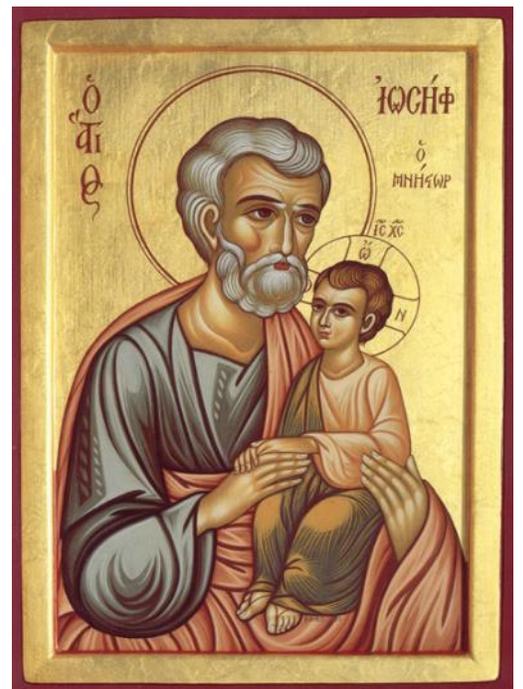
FASTING REQUIREMENTS THIS WEEK

*Sunday through Friday: It's a party!!! **Christ is Born! Glorify Him!** You can eat anything you want!!*

Saturday: Strict Fast. VEGAN DIET ONLY

The days following Christmas are associated with the Theotokos and Joseph.

The first Sunday after Nativity commemorates "Joseph the Betrothed."



Saint continued....

On Wednesday, January 2:
Forefeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; Sylvester, Pope of Rome; Cosmas, Archbishop of Constantinople; Juliana the Righteous; Theagenes the Hieromartyr, Bishop of Parios; Theopemptos; Theodota, the Mother of the Holy Anargyroi; Righteous Mark the Deaf; Basil the Martyr of Ankyra; Sergios Theopistos the Martyr; George the New Martyr of Georgia; Nilos the Sanctified; Sylvester of the Kiev Caves.

On Thursday, January 3:
Malachi the Prophet; Gordios the Martyr of Caesarea; Forefeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; Righteous Genevieve of Paris; Righteous Peter of Atroas; Righteous Akakios the Wonderworker; Righteous Thomais of Lesbos.

On Friday, January 4:
Synaxis of the 70 Holy Apostles; Our Righteous Father Theoctistus, Abbot of Cucomo in Sicily; Forefeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; Zosimos the Monk and Athanasios the Notary; Righteous Apollinaria the Senator; Martyrs Chrysanthos and Euphemia; Righteous Euthymios the Younger; New Martyr Onuphrios; Righteous Euthymios of Vatopedi; Righteous John Scholarios; Eustathios Archbishop of Serbia; Nikephoros the Leper.

On Saturday, January 5:
Eve of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; The Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas; Righteous Syncretike of Alexandria; Apollinaria of Egypt; Gregory of Akrita

TODAY'S GOSPEL READING IS FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 2:13-23

When the wise men departed, behold, an angel of the *Lord* appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to *Egypt*, and remain there till I tell you; for *Herod* is about to search for the child, to destroy him."

And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to *Egypt*, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to **fulfill** what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of *Egypt* have I called my son."

Then *Herod*, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in *Bethlehem* and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had **ascertained** from the wise men.

Then was **fulfilled** what was spoken by the prophet *Jeremiah*: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud **lamentation**, *Rachel* weeping for her children; she refused to be **consoled**, because they were no more."

But when *Herod* died, behold, an angel of the *Lord* appeared in a dream to *Joseph* in *Egypt*, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of *Israel*, for those who **sought** the child's life are dead."

And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of *Israel*. But when he heard that *Archelaos* reigned over *Judea* in place of his father *Herod*, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of *Galilee*. And he went and dwelt in a city called *Nazareth*, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a *Nazarene*."

What does THAT mean?

Sometimes there is a word in the reading of the day that you may not understand. Some ADULTS don't even understand every word. Don't be nervous to ask "What does THAT mean?" I picked a few of the hard words from this week's gospel and gave you a synonym or short meaning. If you don't know something...ask your parent. Understanding what you are reading will help you remember it.

fulfill: become real

ascertained: Find out for certain

lamentation: crying really loud because of grief and/or sorrow

consoled: comfort during a time of grief

sought: searched for, looked for something or someone



CHRIST IS BORN GLORIFY HIM!

You can use this greeting from December 25 through the 12 days of Christmas ending with Theophany.

Add this beautiful Katavasia of the Nativity, which this greeting comes from, to your family prayer during this period:

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Christ comes from heaven; meet Him.

Christ is on earth exalt Him. O you earth, sing to the Lord.

O your nations, praise Him in joy for He has been glorified.



Go to this website to learn about each of the 12 Days of Christmas
<https://www.goarch.org/-/what-are-the-12-days-of-christmas>



Deacon Timon (one of the 7 Deacons) Also counted as one of the 70 Apostles who became Bishop in Arabia. He died by crucifixion there in the third century (298AD). On the same day we have the martyrdom of St Anysia from Thessaloniki, born of wealthy and prominent parents. She was orphaned young. She assisted the poor and devoted herself to prayer and fasting. This was the time of Emperor Maxim-



ian Hercules again. One of his decrees was that anyone was free to kill Christians when and where they came across them, without trial or sentences. So Anysia was killed by a soldier for being a Christian.

In today's Epistle reading St. Paul writes a beautiful letter to the Galatians . He tells us how God had chosen him before he was even born!! God chose to reveal his Son to St. Paul, in order that St. Paul might teach about our Lord among the Gentiles (those who did not believe in Jesus as God and the Holy Spirit.)

Before St. Paul was an Apostle of Jesus he really really believed in the traditions of his Fathers—Judaism. And he reverently preached THOSE lessons. But when he heard the Truth from Jesus, he immediately took it upon himself to travel the lands to share the word of God.

Write a prayer this week for God to help YOU follow the law of God and to tell a friend about God this week.

Write your prayer to God here:



DEAREST CHILDREN OF GOD, THIS NEWSLETTER IS FOR YOU TO LOOK AT EACH DAY THIS WEEK AND LEARN SOMETHING NEW ABOUT YOUR RELIGION. PARENTS, PLEASE GO OVER THIS WITH YOUR CHILDREN. SIMPLIFY IT FOR THE YOUNGER KIDS AND REALLY GET INTO IT WITH OUR GOYA AGED KIDS.

Please let me know if you have any questions.